

Message Text

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SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION ON CIA INVESTIGATION

FOR IOP/M, ILA

1. IN LONG EDITORIAL CALLED "MORALITY AND THE CIA" MAJOR DAILY TRINIDAD GUARDIAN JUNE 11 WARNED THAT A UNITED PUBLIC OPINION IN OTHER COUNTRIES IS THE "SUREST SHIELD" AGAINST ACTIVITIES BY THE CIA. BLOCK QUOTES FOLLOW:

2. IT IS ONE THING TO AGREE SOLEMNLY NOT TO INTERVENE IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF OTHER STATES BUT IT SEEMS THE MORE THIS IS ASSERTED THE MORE WATCHFUL SHOULD A PEOPLE BE FOR INTERFERENCE. NOTHING, EVEN MURDER, APPEARS TO BE RULED OUT THAT CANNOT BE EXCUSED AS BEING "IN THE NATIONAL INTEREST."

3. THE STATUTE CREATING THE SPY AGENCY SPECIFICALLY RESTRICTS ITS OPERATIONS TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES AND IT HAS FUNCTIONED FOR THIS PURPOSE AS AN INSTRUMENT OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES SOMETIMES IN WAYS WHICH ARE THOROUGHLY REPREHENSIBLE.

4. PEOPLE IN THE U.S. HAVE HAD DOUBTS ABOUT STORIES HEARD IN THE PAST OF ASSASSINATIONS IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES CARRIED OUT BY THIS AGENCY OF THEIR GOVERNMENT. WHAT THE ROCKEFELLER COMMISSION HAS FOUND IN THIS RESPECT IS, AT THE MOMENT, SECRET AND HAS BEEN PASSED ON TO THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL TO STUDY FOR POSSIBLE LEGAL ACTION.

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5. NOTHING MUCH NEED BE EXPECTED FROM THIS ESPECIALLY

SINCE ANY ALLEGED ILLEGAL ACTS PROBABLY GO AS FAR BACK AS THE REGIME OF PRESIDENT EISENHOWER AND SO IT IS HARDLY LIKELY THAT ANYONE STILL ALIVE WHO WAS INVOLVED IN ANY PLOTTING IN THE U.S. TO KILL ANY FOREIGN HEAD OF STATE WILL BE HAULED BEFORE A GRAND JURY.

6. HOWEVER, THE SENATE COMMITTEE HEADED BY MR. CHURCH HAS FOUND "HARD EVIDENCE" OF CIA COMPLICITY IN MURDER PLOTS OF MURDER ATTEMPTS. SENATOR CHURCH SAYS SO AND HIS WORD MUST BE ACCEPTED EVEN THOUGH HIS INQUIRY IS NOT YET COMPLETE.

7. SOME WILL ASK WHICH IS MORE SCANDALOUS -- THIS OR WATERGATE? ANOTHER SORDID ASPECT OF THIS SORDID AFFAIR IS THE CO-OPERATION IN THIS ILLEGAL ACTIVITY WITH ORGANISED CRIME. THERE IS REASON FOR ALARM IN SMALL STATES TO FIND NOT MERELY THAT OTHER PEOPLE CAN CLAIM A VETO OVER THEIR DECISIONS AND DISRESPECT THEIR SOVEREIGNTY BUT TO ENGAGE THE MAFIA IN CARRYING OUT THEIR FINAL POLITICAL DECISIONS.

8. IT IS NOTHING NEW REALLY TO SAY THAT THE NIXON ADMINISTRATION OBTAINED C.I.A. ASSISTANCE FOR A SCHEME TO DISCREDIT JOHN AND EDWARD KENNEDY, NOR TO SAY THAT THE JOHNSON ADMINISTRATION PRODDED THE AGENCY TO COLLECT LISTS OF NAMES AND HARASS THE ANTI-VIET NAM WAR MOVEMENT. THE FINDING THAT THE GREAT MAJORITY OF OPERATIONS WERE WITHIN THE C.I.A.'S STATUTORY AUTHORITY WILL SEEM TO MANY PEOPLE LIKE THE WHITEWASH THEY PREDICTED.

9. THE CONCERN OF OUTSIDE COUNTRIES ABOUT THE OPERATIONS OF THE C.I.A. AND ITS HELPERS WILL NOT BE EASED BY THE ROCKEFELLER FINDINGS SINCE THEY HAVE NO RELEVANCE TO THEM AND WILL NOT PREVENT INTERFERENCE IN THEIR AFFAIRS IN THE WIDE VARIETY OF ILLEGAL WAYS REVEALED BY OPERATORS WHO HAVE BECOME DISILLUSIONED IN THE COURSE OF THEIR DIRTY WORK.

10. THEY USE DEVIOUS MEANS TO COVER THEIR TRACKS -- ON EMBASSY STAFF, IN U.S. COMPANIES AND ORGANISATIONS REAL UNCLASSIFIED

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AND DUMMY, IN AND THROUGH LABOUR ORGANISATIONS AND POLITICAL PARTIES, IN CHURCH AND YOUTH GROUPS, SEDUCING WITH MONEY THOSE WHOM THEY WOULD USE AT THE PROPER TIME.

11. THEIR WORK IS EASIER IN COUNTRIES WHICH ARE DIVIDED AND POLITICALLY INSECURE IN WHICH IT IS POSSIBLE TO PLAY OFF ONE GROUP AGAINST ANOTHER AND TILT THE BALANCE. A UNITED PUBLIC OPINION IS THE SUREST SHIELD, BUT MANY

PEOPLE DO NOT SEE THE DISLOYALTY TO THEIR OWN COUNTRY
IN SUBMITTING TO BEING USED FOR ALIEN PURPOSES. THEY
REFUSE TO SEE THE DANGER EVEN WHEN WARNED.
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